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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Application of

Akira IZUMI.

Date: July 9, 2004

Serial No.: 10/634,432

Group Art Unit: 3749

Filed: August 5, 2003

Examiner: Jiping LU

For: SUBSTRATE PROCESSING APPARATUS AND SUBSTRATE
PROCESSING METHOD DRYING SUBSTRATE BY SPRAYING GAS

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT
REMARKS/ARGUMENT

Responsive to the Restriction Requirement mailed June 22, 2004, applicant elects the species directed to Figure 1, corresponding to claims 1, 2 and 5-8. It is noted that by interposing the instant restriction requirement, the Patent Office is held to the position that the different embodiments of the invention are patentably distinct over one another. Applicant reserves the right to file a divisional application directed to the subject matter covered in the non-elected claims.

Early and favorable consideration of the present application is earnestly solicited.

If this communication is filed after the statutory time period had elapsed and no separate Petition is enclosed, the Commissioner for Patents is petitioned, under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), to extend the time for filing a response to the outstanding Office Action by the number of months which will avoid abandonment under 37 C.F.R. §1.135. The fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 should be charged to our Deposit Account No. 15-0700.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on July 9, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

MAX MOSKOWITZ
Name of applicant, assignee or
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Signature
July 9, 2004
Date of Signature

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